

Application Serial No: 10/533,150
Responsive to the Office Action mailed on: July 8, 2008

IN THE CLAIMS

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Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An analyzing tool comprising:
a liquid inlet provided at a central portion; ~~and~~
a plurality of individual channels which communicate with the liquid inlet for moving a sample liquid introduced through the liquid inlet by capillary action from the central portion toward a peripheral portion of the tool;
a common channel provided at the peripheral portion of the tool and communicating with the plurality of individual channels;
a plurality of first gas exhaust holes each having an opening closed by a first seal;
and
a second gas exhaust hole having an opening closed by a second seal;
wherein each individual channel includes a reaction site and a branch offset from the reaction site toward the liquid inlet, the branch communicating with a corresponding one of the plurality of first gas exhaust holes, and wherein the common channel communicates with the second gas exhaust hole.
2. (Currently Amended) An analyzing tool according to Claim 1, wherein each of the individual channels extends linearly from the central portion toward the peripheral portion.
3. (Currently Amended) An analyzing tool according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of individual channels are arranged radially.
4. (Cancelled)

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5. (Currently Amended) An analyzing tool according to Claim 1, comprising a plurality of measurement sites, each of the individual channels being provided with at least one of the measurement sites,

wherein the plurality of measurement sites are arranged on a common circle.

6. (Original) An analyzing tool according to Claim 5, which has a disk configuration.

7. (Currently Amended) An analyzing tool according to Claim 1, ~~wherein two or more of the plurality of channels have further comprising reagent parts for reacting with a sample liquid, the reagent parts being provided at selected ones of the reaction sites and containing and wherein the reagent parts on the two or more channels contain reagents different from each other.~~

8. (Currently Amended) An analyzing tool according to Claim 1, further comprising a substrate and a cover joined to the substrate,

wherein the liquid inlet comprises a through-hole in the substrate or the cover, and wherein the plurality of individual channels comprises grooves in the substrate or the cover.

9. (Original) An analyzing tool according to Claim 8, wherein each of the grooves has a main cross section which is rectangular with a width of 10-500 μm and a depth of 5-500 μm , the depth/width ratio being ≥ 0.5 .

10. (Currently Amended) An analyzing apparatus for performing analysis of a sample liquid using an analyzing tool in accordance with claim 1,

~~wherein the analyzing tool comprises a liquid inlet at a central portion, a plurality of channels which communicate with the liquid inlet and allow a sample liquid introduced through the liquid inlet to flow from the central portion toward a peripheral portion of the tool under capillary action, and a plurality of measurement sites arranged~~

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~~on a common circle, each of the channels being provided with at least one of the plurality of measurement sites, and~~

~~wherein the analyzing apparatus comprises comprising:~~
~~rotating means for rotating the analyzing tool; and detection means for providing a stimulus to the measurement sites and detecting a reaction at the measurement sites~~
~~a first opening-forming element for simultaneously breaking the first seals at the first gas exhaust holes; and~~
~~a second opening-forming element for breaking the second seal at the second gas exhaust hole.~~

11. (Currently Amended) An analyzing apparatus according to Claim 10, ~~wherein the detection means comprises further comprising~~ a fixed light source and a light detector for providing the stimulus as light while detecting the reaction as reflected light, transmitted light or scattered light, ~~the light source emitting light for irradiating a plurality of measurement sites in the analyzing tool, the light detector detecting light response from the measurement sites.~~

12. (Currently Amended) An analyzing apparatus according to Claim [[10]] 11, wherein the plurality of measurement sites are positioned at equal intervals from each other, the rotating means causing the analyzing tool to rotate intermittently at angles corresponding to the ~~equal intervals between adjacent measurement sites.~~